DOCKET NO.: 206018US

IN THE UNITER STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

MIKIKO SUGA ET AL

: EXAMINER: FRONDA

SERIAL NO.: 09/835,381

FILED: APRIL 17, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: ARGININE REPRESSOR

DEFICIENT STRAIN OF

CORYNEFORM BACTERIUM

AND METHOD FOR

PRODUCING L-ARGININE

1/9) 1/3/22

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated August 28, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 4, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of this claim in a continuation and/or divisional application.

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows: